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## CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FOR THE PROPOSED WASTEWATER PROJECT FOR THE TOWN OF HOTCHKISS

The Water Quality Control Division of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment has conducted a review of the proposed drinking water project for the Town of Hotchkiss in accordance with Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and State of Colorado procedures for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (40 CFR Part 6) and the State of Colorado NEPA-like policy (SRF Operating Agreement). The State has determined that this project is eligible for a categorical exclusion. Accordingly, the State is exempting the project from further substantive environmental review requirements under the above stated policies.

## **Project Description:**

The proposed project consists of replacing new/or rehabilitating failing collection system piping to address both Infiltration/Inflow conditions and flow capacity issues associated with undersized pipe. The project will be funded in part by a Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund loan in the amount of \$700,000 at an interest rate of 0%, however, at loan closing \$457,761 of the principal amount will be forgiven. The loan will increase the user rates by approximately \$1.70 per month.

The project, by design, will not increase the wastewater demand for the planning area.

## Criteria for Granting a Categorical Exclusion under 40 CFR part 6.204:

The action proposed will ensure compliance with current and future wastewater treatment standards. The following criteria condition the allowance of the categorical exclusion for the proposed action:

- Infiltration and inflow corrections;
- Minor upgrades and expansions of existing treatment works in sewered communities (sewer extensions are <u>not</u> included); or

The documentation to support this decision will be on file at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Water Quality Control Division, in Denver, Colorado, and is available for public scrutiny upon request. Comments concerning this decision may be addressed to:

Erick Worker, Project Manager
Grants and Loans Unit
Water Quality Control Division
Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
4300 Cherry Creek Drive South
Denver, Colorado 80246



day of August, 2015.

Patrick J. Pfaltzgraff
Division Director
Water Quality Control Division